



"Enriching Lives"

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER

1104 N. MISSION RD., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033



Anthony T. Hernandez
Director

Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, MD
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

March 8, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California, 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

38 March 8, 2011

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
AND APPROVE AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
(ALL DISTRICTS)(4-VOTES)**

SUBJECT:

Request Board approval for the Director, Department of Coroner, as agent for Los Angeles County, to accept a grant award in the amount of \$144,029 from the California Emergency Management Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program and approve appropriation adjustment. These funds are distributed by the California Emergency Management Agency to improve forensic services throughout the State of California.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve and instruct the Director, Department of Coroner, to accept a grant award from the California Emergency Management Agency Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program for October 1, 2010-August 31, 2011, in the amount of \$144,029 for continuing education and acquisition of a Bench Top Drug Screening System.

Accreditations:

*National Association of Medical Examiners
California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education*

*American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-LAB
Peace Officer Standards and Training Certified*

2. Delegate authority to the Director, Department of Coroner, or his designee, to act as agent for the County to execute and submit all grant documents, including but not limited to applications, agreements, modifications, amendments, extensions, and payment requests that may be necessary for completion of this program that do not increase Net County Cost.

3. Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment, recognizing \$144,000 in grant funding for FY 2010-11 in the Department's Services & Supplies and Fixed Assets-Equipment appropriation budgets.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Department of Coroner recommends that your Board: (1) approve the allocation of California Emergency Management Agency Paul Coverdell Program funds to the County; (2) authorize implementation of the County-administered projects; and (3) authorize the Director, Department of Coroner to enter into this grant award agreement on your Board's behalf with the California Emergency Management Agency.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Approval of the recommended action is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan, Goal 1 (Operational Effectiveness), Strategy 2 (Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness), and Strategy 4 (Workforce excellence). These grant projects will improve laboratory and pathology services provided by the Department of Coroner.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The California Emergency Management Paul Coverdell funding of \$144,029 will be provided to the County to offset the cost of these new projects. The grant period will be from October 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011. The appropriation adjustment will increase Services & Supplies by \$44,000 and Fixed Assets-Equipment by \$100,000.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Each year the California Emergency Management Agency, Public Safety Branch, Crime Suppression Section allocates funds under the National Institute of Justice's Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program. These funds

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California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education*

*American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-LAB
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are allocated to state and local forensic laboratories for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To carry out all or a substantial part of a program intended to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science or medical examiner services in the state, including those services provided by laboratories operated by the state and those operated by units of local government within the state.
2. To eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence, including the examination of controlled substances, toxicology, trace evidence, firearms, questioned documents, biology/DNA, crime scene evidence, latent prints, and pathology.
3. To train, assist and employ forensic laboratory personnel as needed to eliminate such a backlog.

The Department of Coroner's Forensic Laboratory is one of 23 accredited laboratories in California qualified to receive funding through the California Emergency Management Agency Paul Coverdell Program. The Department of Coroner is accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), and our Forensic Laboratory by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB). Approximately two-thirds of the funds are available to these 23 laboratories as a baseline to fund one or more of the program objectives outlined above. Based on the number of our qualified personnel the Department of Coroner's baseline grant award is \$44,238. These baseline funds will be used for professional development for our Criminalists and Doctors in accordance with program objectives 1 & 3 above. In addition to these baseline funds the Department of Coroner has been awarded up to \$99,791 to purchase a new drug screening system for our Laboratory's toxicology section. This new system will replace an existing 10 year old obsolete system with a fully upgraded and automated system, which will greatly improve the laboratories' drug screening quality and performance.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS:

The Department of Coroner does not anticipate any negative impact on current services or projects. These funds will be spent to replace an existing outdated laboratory instrument which will increase efficiency and turnaround time for laboratory services, and fund professional development of Coroner Criminalists and Doctors.

Accreditations:

*National Association of Medical Examiners
California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education*

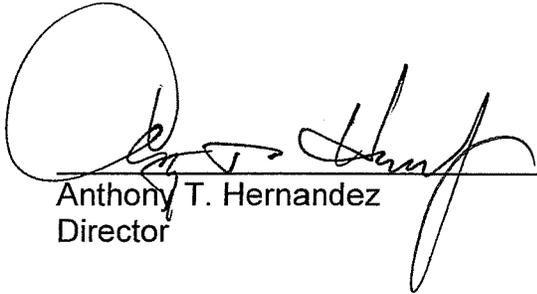
*American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-LAB
Peace Officer Standards and Training Certified*

Honorable Board of Supervisors
March 8, 2011
Page 4 of 4

CONCLUSION:

Following Board approval, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two copies of the adopted Board letter to: Department of Coroner Elizabeth Seung, Contracts Manager.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony T. Hernandez
Director



Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

Accreditations:

*National Association of Medical Examiners
California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education*

*American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-LAB
Peace Officer Standards and Training Certified*

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office

Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000 or More

Department: *Los Angeles County Department of Coroner*

Grant Project Title and Description

California Emergency Management Agency(CALEMA) Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program for Continuing Education and Acquisition of a Bench Top Drug Screening System

Funding Agency CALEMA	Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #) 	Grant Acceptance Deadline
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Total Amount of Grant Funding: 144,029	County Match: 0
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Grant Period:	Begin Date: 10/10	End Date: 08/11
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Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant: 0	Full Time:	Part Time:
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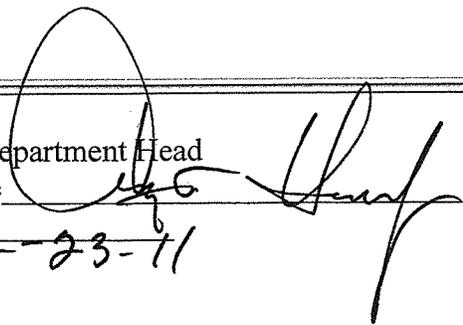
Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires

Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	Yes	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:		
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)	Yes	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

Impact of additional personnel on existing space:

N/A

Other requirements not mentioned above:

Department Head
 Signature 
 Date: 2-23-11

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT

DEPT'S. NO. 340

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER

February 28, 2011

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

FY 2010-2011

4 - VOTES

SOURCES

USES

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER
A01-ME-90-9031-19150
FEDERAL GRANTS \$144,000
INCREASE REVENUE

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER
A01-ME-2000-19150
SERVICES & SUPPLIES \$ 44,000
INCREASE APPROPRIATION

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER
A01-ME-6030-19150
FIXED ASSETS-EQUIPMENT \$100,000
INCREASE APPROPRIATION

SOURCES TOTAL: \$ 144,000

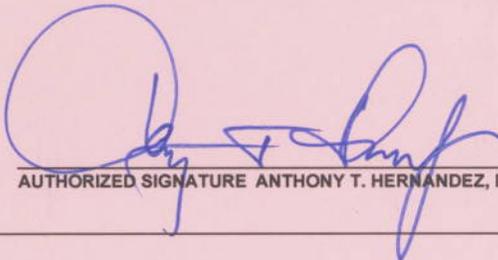
USES TOTAL: \$ 144,000

JUSTIFICATION

TO RECOGNIZE FEDERAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE'S PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT AWARD FOR OCTOBER 1, 2010 TO AUGUST 31, 2011. AWARD # CQ10 01 0190, Cal EMA ID: 037-00000. (See Attached)

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE ANTHONY T. HERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)

38 March 8, 2011

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR ---

ACTION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

APPROVED AS REVISED

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

BY *Karen Shikama*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BY _____

B.A. NO. 107

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